Cotton Textile Industry

3190. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hardoi) : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the increasing use of cheap synthetics and filament yarn has adversely affected the cotton textile industry; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to enable the cotton textile industry to overcome this crisis?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Appreciation of Rupee in the World Currencies

3191. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether rupee has been appreciated in value against the major world currencies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). the exchange rate of the rupee has been generally stable against the U.S. dollar so far during the current financial year. While the rupee weakened against the Pound Sterling by 11.5 per cent and by 1.5 per cent against the D.M. between March 1996 and November 1996, it strengthened by 2.2 per cent against the yen over the same period. The rupee's movements vis-a-vis other major currencies reflected the dollar's movements against these currencies. The Exchanges rate of the rupee against major currencies is given in the Statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

Exchange Rates of the Rupee-Monthly Average, (FEDAI Indicative Rates)*

(Rupees per Foreign Currency)

Month/Year	U.s. Dollar	Pound Sterling	Doutsche Mark	Japannese Yen@
1	2	3	4	5
1996				
March	34.3936 (6.51)	62.5512 (7.08)	23.2919 (7.29)	32.4960 (6.57)
April	24.2391 (0.45)	51.8774 (1.30)	22.7440 (2.41)	31.8897 (1.97)
May	35.0105 (-2.20)	52.9799 (-2.08)	22.8341 (0.39)	32.8993 (-3.13)
June	34.9803 (0.09)	53.9448 (-1.79)	22.9014 (-0.29)	32.1315 (2.39)
July	35.5050 (-1.48)	55.1533 (-2.19)	23.5763 (-2.86)	32.5274 (-1.22)
August	35.6955 (-0.53)	55.3299 (-0.32)	24.1431 (-2.35)	33.1169 (-1.78)
September	35.7284 (-0.09)	55.7217 (0.70)	23.7672 (1.50)	32.5756 (1.66)
October	35.6404 (0.25)	54.4717 (-1.33)	23.3366 (1.85)	31.74.02 (2.63)
November	35.7353 (-0.27)	59.3710 (-4.88)	23.6376 (-1.27)	31.8032 (-0.28)

* FEDAI Foreign Exchange Dealers Association of India Figures in brackets indicate percentage app/dep (-) over the preceding month.

@ Rupees per 100 yen.

Open Cast Projects

3192. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the names and the locations of the open cast projects under the Eastern Coalfields Limited;

(b) the names and the locations of the open cast projects closed/abandoned during each of the last three year;

(c) the quantity of coal blocked in these projects;

(d) the reasons for closure of these open cast projects and whether the Government are contemplating to reopen these O.C.Ps.;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) The names and locations of the open cast projects under the Eastern Coalfields Ltd. are as under :-

S.No.	Name of the OC Project	Location
1	2	3
1.	Khottadhi	Burdwan Distt. West Bengal
2.	Shankarpur	-do-
3.	Jambad	-do-
4.	Ardhagram	Bankura Distt.. West Bengal
5.	Kenda West	Burdwan Distt.. West Bengal
6.	Chore	-do-
7.	Bansara	-do-
8.	Tarsea	-do-
9.	Sonepur Bazari	-do-
10.	Sangramgarh	-do-
11.	Golrangdih	-do-
12.	Bonjemhari	-do-
13.	Mohanpur	-do-